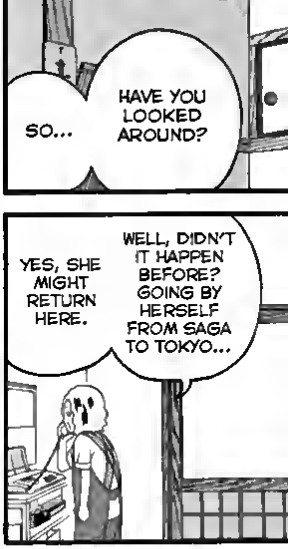
IS THAT RUNAWAY CAT REALLY ON CAMPUS?
WELL...
OOY, HARU-OMI!/
WHAT IS IT, CHIEF!?
SCENE 42
I WANT TO SEE HER
I DON'T THINK IT'S AROUND HERE...
I MEAN,
IT MAY BE SO, BUT...
...BUT, ON CAMPUS WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING~
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE WE'VE SEEN THIS GIRL SOME-WHERE.
WAS SHE REALLY HERE EARLIER~?
IT'S OKAY. WE LIKE HOW YOU KEEP YOUR PROMISES.
SORRY, SEARCH-ING SO HARD FOR MY SAKE...
HAHAHA
...YES, SHE WAS.

SCANLATION BY RPAPO

WH, WHAT ...!?
SOEJIMA
FATHER, WHAT'S WRONG?
HOW CAN THIS BEEEE!?
HOW, AKI!!
MOTHER ... MI, MILL-CHAN...
SHE'S DIS-APPEAR-ED...!!
Why why why?
Why, why?
HELLO, AKI?
I TOOK THE PHONE.

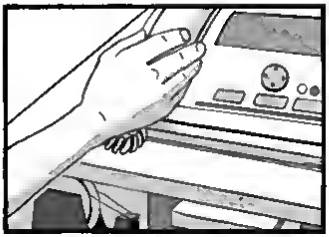
I'LL GET FATHER TO SETTLE DOWN TOO.
YES, JUST CALM DOWN.
Bam Bam


SO...
HAVE YOU LOOKED AROUND?
YES, SHE MIGHT RETURN HERE.
WELL, DIDN'T IT HAPPEN BEFORE? GOING BY HERSELF FROM SAGA TO TOKYO...

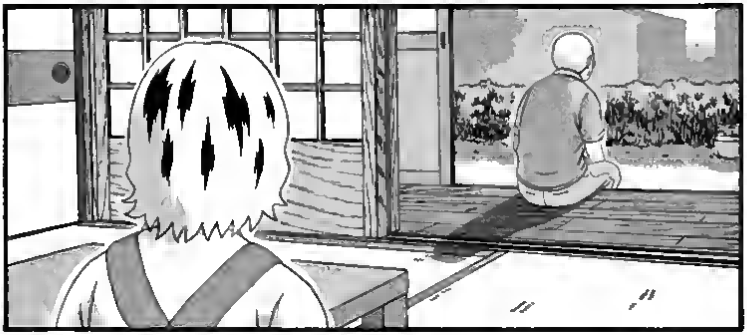
...Understood Umm so...
PROBABLY DURING SUMMER VACATION.
...YES, INCLUDING THE SEARCH.
ONCE YOU DO THAT, YOU COME ON BACK HOME.

.....
Umm...

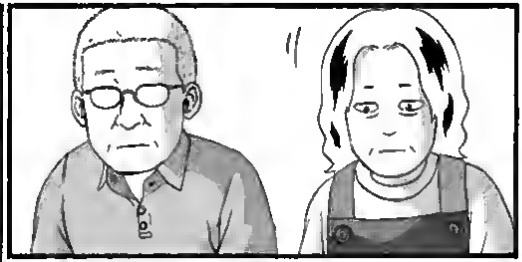
ACTUALLY, UMM...
IT'S MILL, BUT...

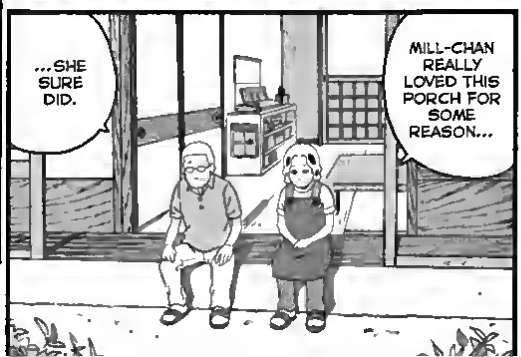


YES, THEN TAKE CARE.
WELL, THAT'S FINE. WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT WHEN YOU GET HOME.

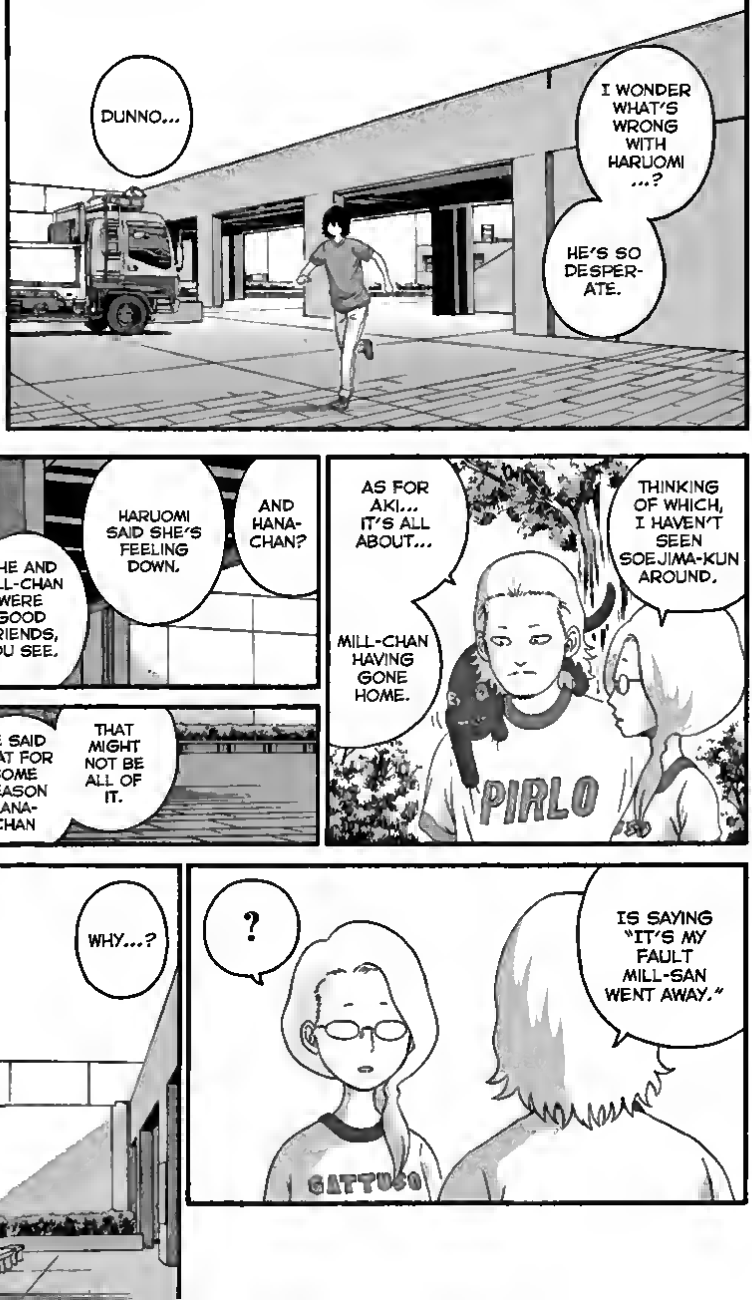


ALWAYS,
SHE SET HERSELF HERE...

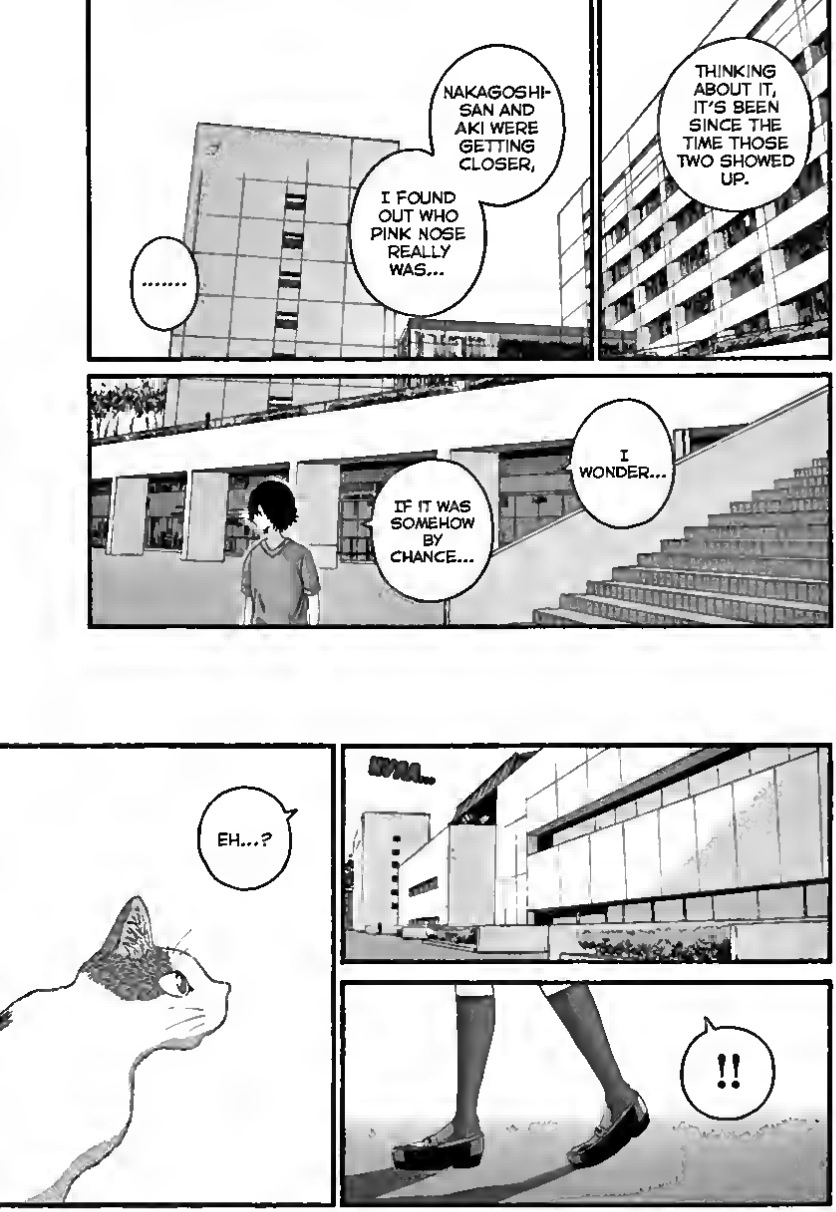


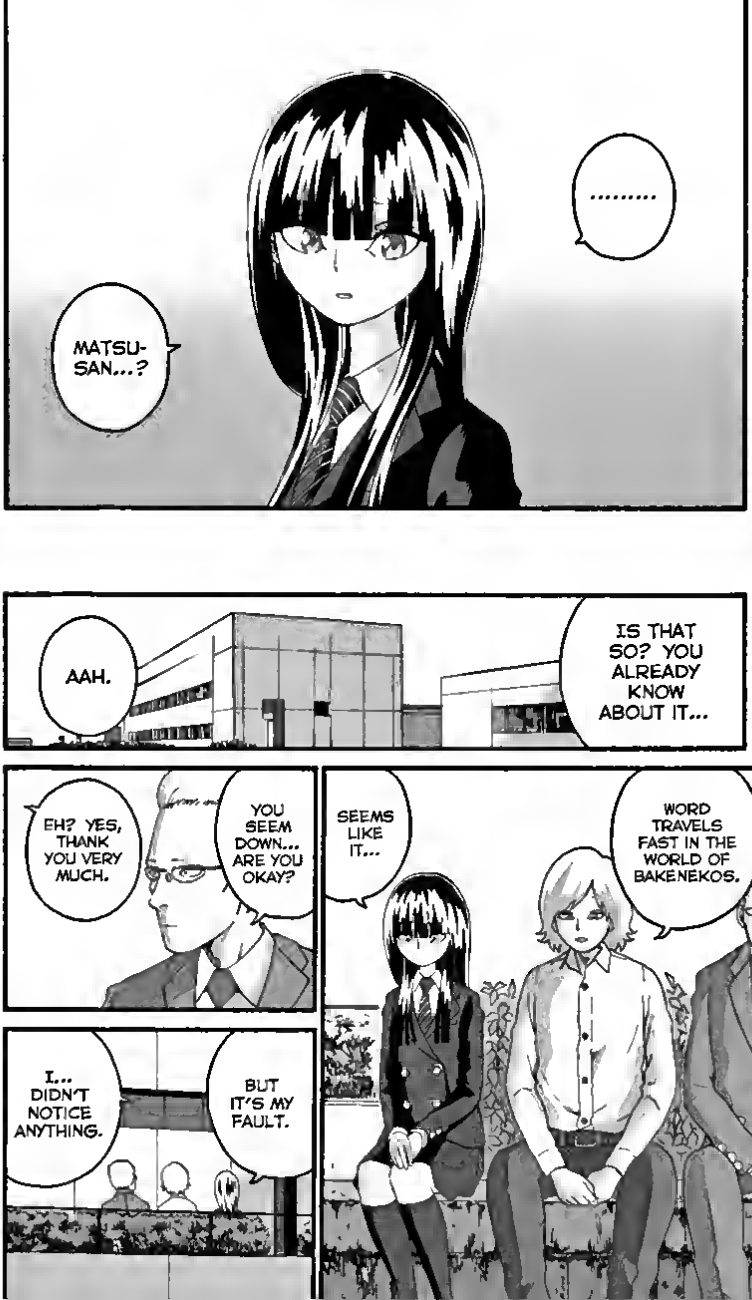

...SHE SURE DID.
MILL-CHAN REALLY LOVED THIS PORCH FOR SOME REASON...

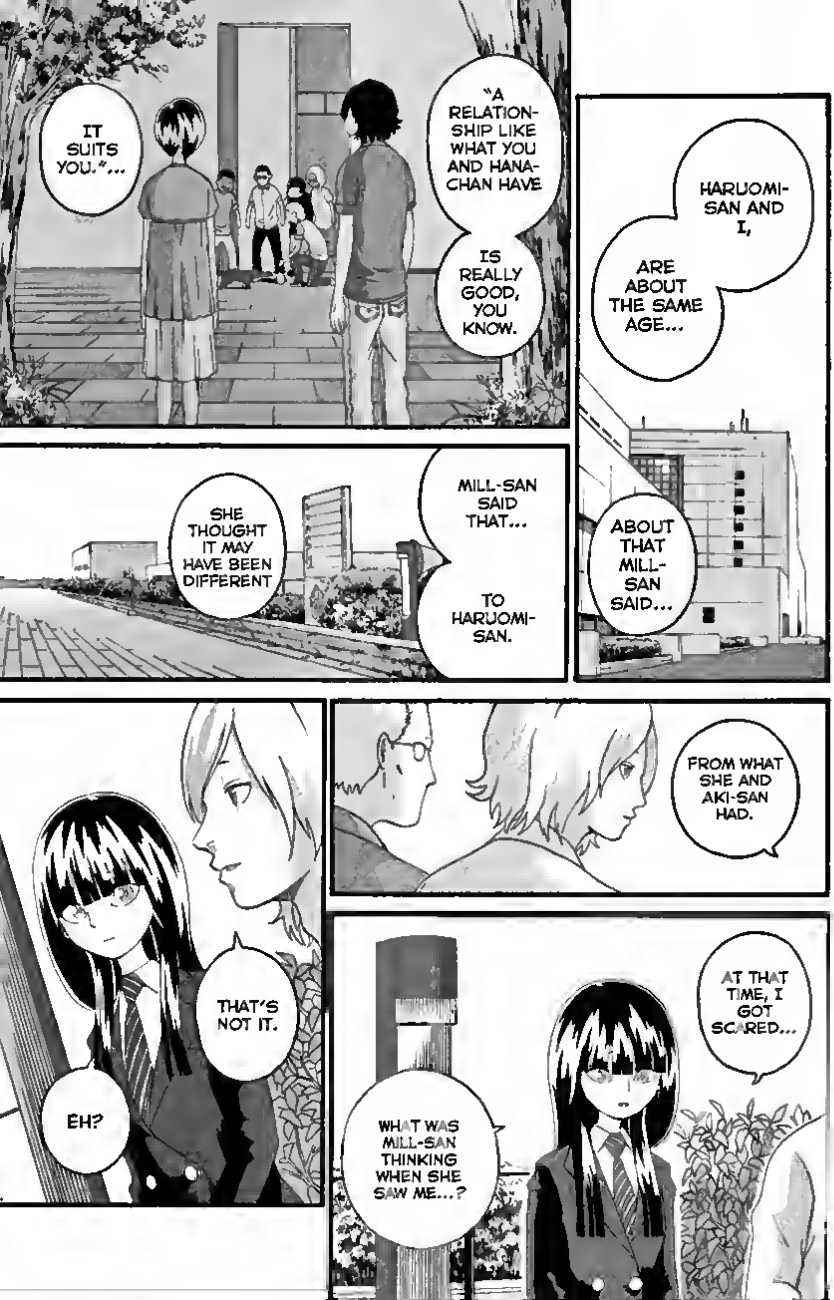
Dosukoi
NO, THAT'S NOT THE ONE.
ANYHOW IT'S THE SAME ONE AS ALWAYS...
I MEAN, IT'S ON MY HEAD RIGHT NOW...
JUST NOW, A CAT'S SHADOW ...
...WHAT THE?
EH?
LET'S SEE.. OVER BY THE FACULTY BUILDING..
!!
WH, WHERE !?
WASN'T THERE A WHITISH CAT?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!


I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG WITH HARUOMI ...?
HE'S SO DESPER-ATE.
DUNNO...
THINKING OF WHICH, I HAVEN'T SEEN SOEJIMA-KUN AROUND.
AS FOR AKI... IT'S ALL ABOUT...
MILL-CHAN HAVING GONE HOME.
PIRLO
AND HANA-CHAN?
HARUOMI SAID SHE'S FEELING DOWN.
SHE AND MILL-CHAN WERE GOOD FRIENDS, YOU SEE.
THAT MIGHT NOT BE ALL OF IT.
HE SAID THAT FOR SOME REASON HANA-CHAN
IS SAYING "IT'S MY FAULT MILL-SAN WENT AWAY."
?
GATTUSO
WHY...?

!!
A CALI...
?
A MALE CALICO...
AH...
...AND,
HIS FOLLOW-ER...


.....
I FOUND OUT WHO PINK NOSE REALLY WAS...
NAKAGOSHI-SAN AND AKI WERE GETTING CLOSER,
THINKING ABOUT IT, IT'S BEEN SINCE THE TIME THOSE TWO SHOWED UP.
IF IT WAS SOMEHOW BY CHANCE...
I WONDER...
EH...?
!!


.....
MATSU-SAN...?
IS THAT SO? YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT IT...
AAH.
WORD TRAVELS FAST IN THE WORLD OF BAKENEKOS.
SEEMS LIKE IT...
YOU SEEM DOWN... ARE YOU OKAY?
EH? YES, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
BUT IT'S MY FAULT.
I... DIDN'T NOTICE ANYTHING.


IT SUITS YOU."...
"A RELATIONSHIP LIKE WHAT YOU AND HANA-CHAN HAVE IS REALLY GOOD, YOU KNOW.
HARUOMI-SAN AND I, ARE ABOUT THE SAME AGE...
ABOUT THAT MILL-SAN SAID...
SHE THOUGHT IT MAY HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT
MILL-SAN SAID THAT... TO HARUOMI-SAN.
FROM WHAT SHE AND AKI-SAN HAD.
EH?
THAT'S NOT IT.
AT THAT TIME, I GOT SCARED...
WHAT WAS MILL-SAN THINKING WHEN SHE SAW ME...?

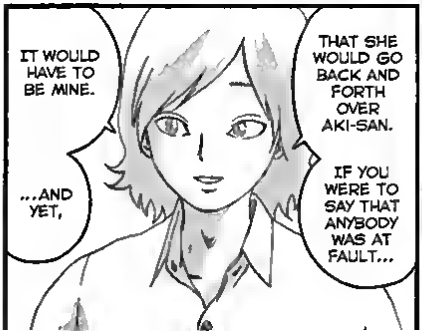
I WONDER IF IT WAS HARUOMI-KUN?
EH?

CERTAINLY YOUR CASE MAY HAVE BEEN THE TRIGGER.
AND SO, MILL HAVING SEEN YOU...

SEEING HIM LOOKING HAPPY,
SHE PROBABLY COMPARED HIM WITH AKI-KUN.
AS THINGS WERE, AKI-KUN COULD NOT HAVE THAT SMILE...

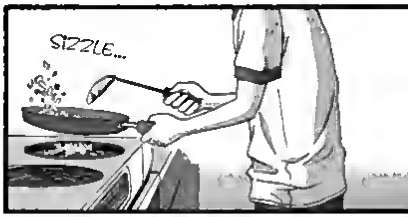
...IT WAS RATHER LIKE MILL-SAN, YOU KNOW...
IT WAS NOT YOUR FAULT...

AND SO, AFTER THAT, SHE WENT TO SEE NAKAGOSHI-SAN.
IN ORDER TO SEE IF SHE WAS A PERSON FIT FOR HIM.

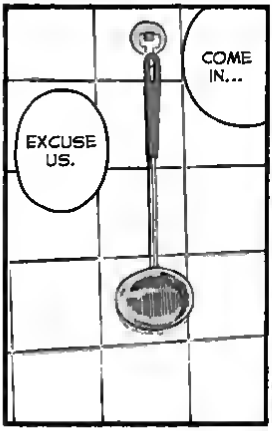

THAT SHE WOULD GO BACK AND FORTH OVER AKI-SAN.
IF YOU WERE TO SAY THAT ANYBODY WAS AT FAULT...
IT WOULD HAVE TO BE MINE.
...AND YET,

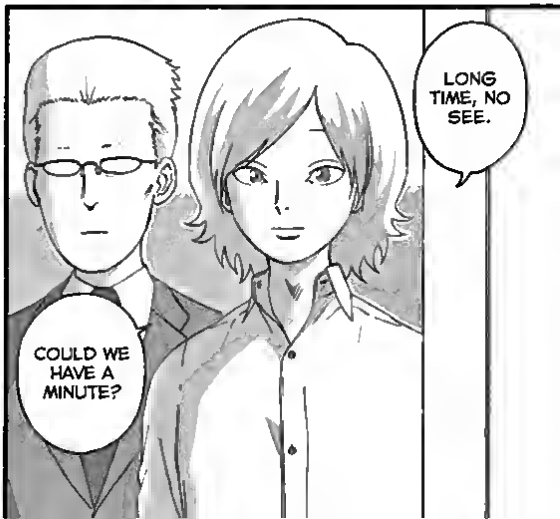
"I WILL BE AT HIS SIDE."
"AS MUCH AS I CAN",
...SHE SAID THAT.
.....
IT PROBABLY WOULD HAVE HAPPENED.
SOONER OR LATER,
?
SHE TOLD ME BEFORE.
...MILL-SAN, YOU KNOW...
BUT... IT DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE BEEN SO.
AT THAT TIME, I TOOK THAT TO MEAN "AS MUCH AS SHE COULD BY AKI-SAN'S SIDE."
...PERHAPS SUCH WAS THE REASON...
SO LONG AS SHE COULD FORGIVE HERSELF...
A BURDEN FOR HIM I COULD STAY HERE,"
MILL-SAN, TELLING HERSELF, "IF I DON'T BECOME

DING DONG

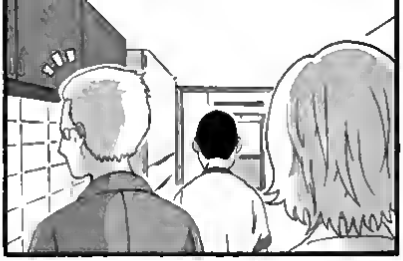

SIZZLE...

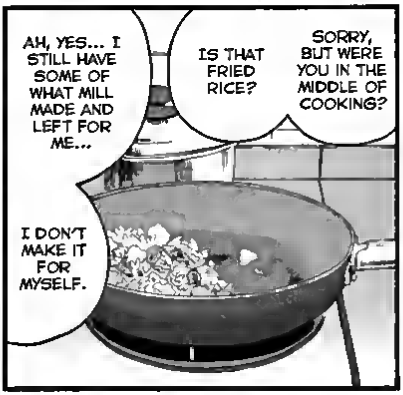
!!
CLICK

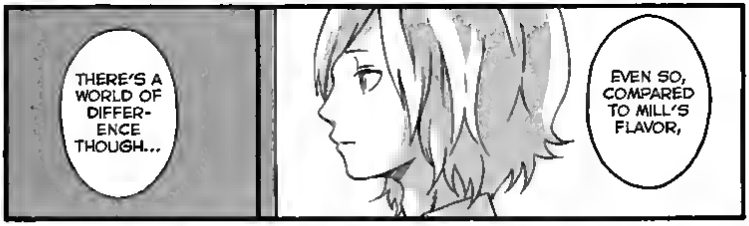

EXCUSE US.
COME IN...

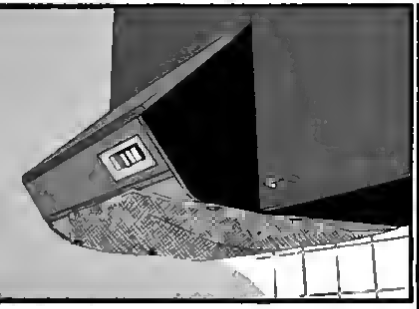

COULD WE HAVE A MINUTE?
LONG TIME, NO SEE.

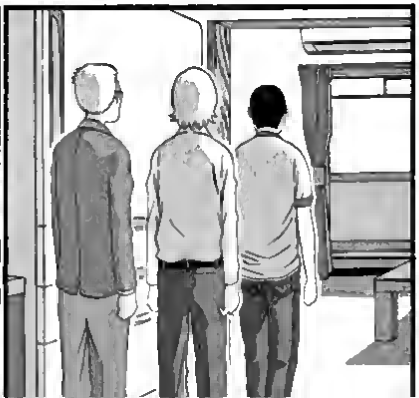
HAA... BUT THIS IS DONE FOLLOWING WHAT MILL DID...
DID YOU COOK FOR YOURSELF BEFORE?
LOOKS GOOD.

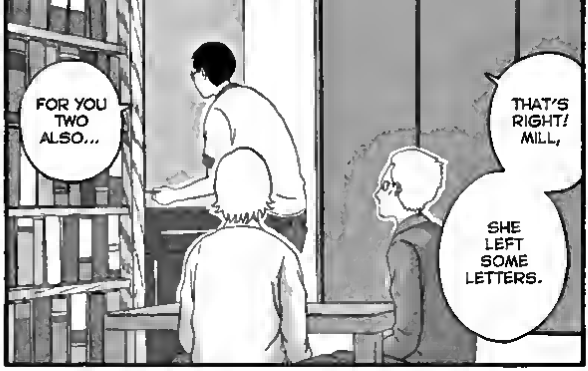



AH, YES... I STILL HAVE SOME OF WHAT MILL MADE AND LEFT FOR ME...
I DON'T MAKE IT FOR MYSELF.
IS THAT FRIED RICE?
SORRY, BUT WERE YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF COOKING?


THERE'S A WORLD OF DIFFER-ENCE THOUGH...
EVEN SO, COMPARED TO MILL'S FLAVOR,

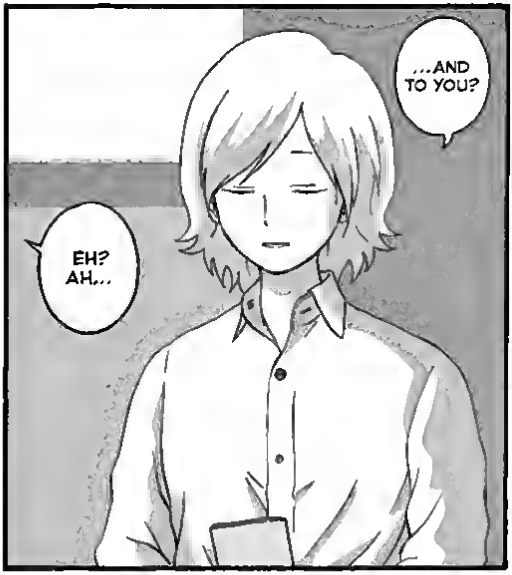


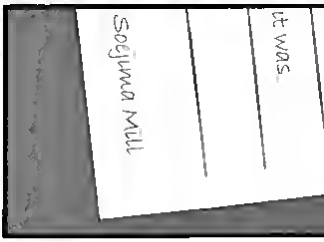



FOR YOU TWO ALSO...
THAT'S RIGHT! MILL,
SHE LEFT SOME LETTERS.

...AH,
12

To Matsu-san and Yuuzou-san
HERE YOU GO.


...AND TO YOU?
EH? AH...

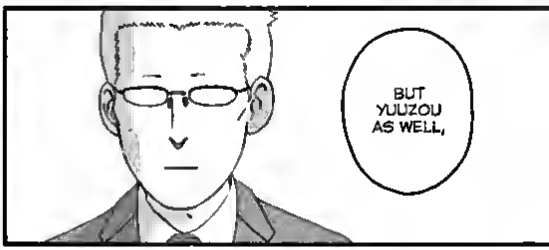

Soejima Mill
It was

...WELL, IT'S PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE.
MILL IS PROBABLY THAT WAY TOO..
YES... SHE DID.
DID THAT LETTER... CONVINCE YOU?
EH?
ARE YOU ANGRY?
FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW,
IT PROBABLY LOOKS LIKE MILL'S LEAVING WAS MY FAULT.
I WAS PRACTICALLY TRYING TO FORCE YOU GUYS APART.
...BUT,

NOT JUST ME,
I MYSELF HAVE BEEN HURT IN SAYING GOOD-BYE.

EH?
I REGRET THAT.
...WHAT I SAID BEFORE,

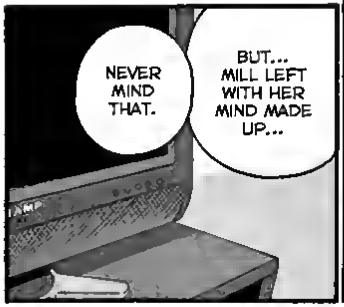
AND SO,


BUT YUUZOU AS WELL,

AND MOST BAKE-NEKOS.

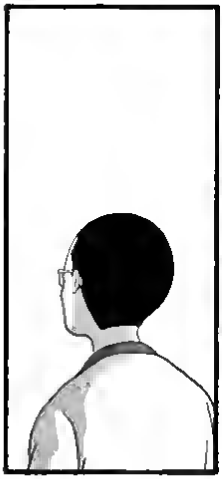
WITH MUTUAL ACCEP-TANCE.
WE WANTED YOU TO SEPARATE WITHOUT SORROW,
WE DID NOT WISH SUCH FAREWELLS FOR YOU, TOO.

To Makisu-san and Yuuzou-san
BUT IN THE END,
THIS IS HOW IT TURNED OUT.
THAT'S WHY I SAID MANY THINGS
TO MAKE YOU ANGRY...
DO YOU REMEMBER?
I SAID, "THERE IS AN IDEAL TIME FOR EVERY RELATIONSHIP."
.....
...EH? WHAT KIND OF...
ISN'T THERE STILL A LITTLE OF THAT LEFT?
...I WONDER,
EH...
MILL TRULY LOVED YOU. WEREN'T YOU THE SAME?
THEREFORE,
TO SEE MILL ONE MORE TIME?
AKI-KUN... DON'T YOU WANT


NEVER MIND THAT.
BUT... MILL LEFT WITH HER MIND MADE UP...

NOT MILL...
NOR YOU.
SO THAT FROM NOW ON WE AREN'T FORCING YOU.

DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE HER AGAIN?



ONE MORE TIME...

I WANT TO SEE HER. AND THEN,
YES...
ONE MORE TIME...
I DARE SAY THAT MILL IS RIGHT NOW
SOME-WHERE WHERE SHE HAS OTHER REGRETS.
AT A GUESS, I DON'T THINK SHE'LL BE COMING TO OUR PLACE.
STILL, IF YOU'LL ACCEPT SOME GUESSES BY OLD PEOPLE...
...THAT SO? THEN, IS THERE SOMEWHERE YOU HOPE TO SEARCH?
EH, WELL...

SCHOOL ZONE
S
FUKUOKA CITY

Sssssss...
Extreme Sushi
OPEN
OH?
!

UMM...
UMAI
BEER
CUSTOMER-SAN?